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FLOOR DEBATE

January 25, 2005 LB 20, 29

Brand Law, and the law of estray and trespassing animals do not apply in the case of feral swine. At the present time, we have laws, if they're estray animals, that you have to go through a procedure of trying to notify and find the rightful owner. If you do find them, they have to pay damages or even feed costs that you might have. If you cannot find the rightful owner, then you can sell the animal and...for your benefit. But this removes the feral swine from that procedure. Feral swine are defined as swine that have obviously reverted to a wild state and freely roaming swine having no clear markings or other identification that they have escaped from a managed swine herd. It's inherent that the bill, to remove any ambiguity, whether landowners having feral swine present on their property may have them destroyed or removed with out incurring any liabilities or any...for any person. The bill does not provide that feral swine may...or, the bill does provide that feral swine may be destroyed in accordance with 37-524 of the Nebraska game law. LB 20 was introduced, and it has a companion bill that was introduced in the Natural Resources Committee. The reason that they were introduced in the two committees, LB 20 deals with the brand laws, which goes through the Agriculture Committee; LB 29 deals with Game and Parks, which is over the oversight of the Natural Resources Committee. So I think that explains it from my standpoint. And Senator Schrock has an amendment on which would amend LB 29, which is the same subject, same section and everything. So at this time, I will stop and allow him to introduce his amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Kremer. You've heard the opening on advancement of LB 20. Mr. Clerk, motion on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Schrock would move to amend with AM0028. (Legislative Journal pages 358-359.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schrock, you're recognized to open on AM0028.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, the reason for the introduction of two separate bills was that the Agriculture Committee needed to hear the bill dealing with feral swine and the Natural Resources Committee needed to hear the